

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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10-11-01108W  
09/806776  
Translation  
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Applicant's or agent's file reference GR98P2876P	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/DE99/03179	International filing date (day/month/year) 01 October 1999 (01.10.99)	Priority date (day/month/year) 05 October 1998 (05.10.98)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H04L 12/56		
Applicant SIEMENS AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT		

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AUG 31 2001  
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1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 3 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☒ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 19 April 2000 (19.04.00)	Date of completion of this report 15 January 2001 (15.01.2001)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/DE99/03179

## I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.)*:

☐ the international application as originally filed.

☒ the description, pages 1-12, as originally filed,  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand,  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_,  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

☒ the claims, Nos. \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed,  
Nos. \_\_\_\_\_, as amended under Article 19,  
Nos. \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand,  
Nos. 1-11, filed with the letter of 22 December 2000 (22.12.2000),  
Nos. \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

☒ the drawings, sheets/fig 1/3-3/3, as originally filed,  
sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand,  
sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_,  
sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_

☐ the claims, Nos. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ the drawings, sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

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## V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

### 1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1 - 11	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1 - 11	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1 - 11	YES
	Claims		NO

### 2. Citations and explanations

1. This report makes reference to the following documents:

D1: US-A-5 649 108

D2: WO-A-98/34415

2.a. **Claim 1** relates to a method for establishing a connection in a communications network. Such methods are known in principle, in particular from document D1, which is considered to be the closest prior art for Claim 1.

D1 discloses, in concordance with essential features of **Claim 1**, a method for establishing a connection in a communications network comprising a plurality of network nodes interconnected by link lines. In the method known from D1, allocation instructions for transmitting connection requests are already used in the network nodes. A routing algorithm is performed in each network node to identify the link line leading to the destination node.

.../...

(Continuation of V.2)

Document D2 discloses a method for establishing a connection in ATM communications networks wherein the connection request is transmitted in an ATM cell.

The method according to **Claim 1** differs from the method known from D1 in that the connection is established in two stages: In a first stage, specific routes to all the destination network nodes which are a potential communication destination are determined, an allocation instruction is installed in the network nodes via the determined specific route, and finally in the second stage a connection request is transmitted from a source network node to a destination network node using the installed allocation instruction. Thus, a routing algorithm need not be performed when a network node receives a connection request. The communication can therefore be established more quickly.

A two-stage method of this kind for establishing a connection is neither known from, nor suggested by, the documents cited in the search report.

The subject matter of **Claim 1** is therefore considered to be novel and inventive (PCT Article 33(2) and (3)). The subject matter of Claim 1 is also industrially applicable.

- b. Dependent **Claims 2 to 11** define advantageous developments of the subject matter of Claim 1 and therefore they, too, meet the requirements of the PCT with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability.

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## VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

Contrary to PCT Rule 5.1(a)(ii), the description does not cite documents D1 and D2 or indicate the relevant prior art disclosed therein.

In Claim 1, line 31 it is not clear what is meant by "... by a new routing instruction allocated thereto". If this refers to the new routing instruction in line 17, then line 31 of Claim 1 should make reference to this new routing instruction: "... by the new routing instruction allocated thereto".